

Party Spirit Carries Provo Volunteer Work

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A Mardi gras atmosphere penetrated parts of south Provo this week when residents and volunteers worked to keep flood waters diverted.

The make-shift river constructed out of sandbags on 300 and 400 South Saturday, Sunday and Monday nights drew throngs of volunteers working with city workers.

Homeowners and merchants are concerned over construction near the river. Roger Woolstenhulme manager of South East Cleaners and Adventureland Videos is concerned about the affect the river will have on his business.

"When we opened this morning we usually have eight to ten cars on a Monday morning; this morning the parking lot was empty."

Lance Capell manager of Allen's Super Save believes the construction will definitely hurt his business.

Officials say the the city needs business and will lose if local businesses lose.

"They are trying to help us as

much as possible by putting signs up to show the customers the quickest way to enter our parking lot. The problem is that you can't get here if you're not persistent."

Woolstenhulme is worried his 800 customers will not want to be hassled with the detours and will eventually take their business elsewhere. Greg Beckstrom, design engineer for Provo said there is a proposal for construction of a bridge proposed to cross over 300 South making access to the businesses easier.

The city built a bridge Sunday on the corner of 900 East and 300 South. The bridges could minimize hassles for residents and merchants.

When surprised by the bridge construction, Doran Williams, who lives at 317 South State, was dissappointed tenants were not notified.

The project blocked Williams from entering his apart ment building. He was glad he had his car out while people worked on it, because other tenants had their cars blocked all day.

Residents of 400 South were

surprised to see as many as 250 volunteers invade their street Sunday night.

Some residents like Merl Kendall of 389 South 500 East were kept up by the noise until early morning.

Most residents interviewed said the sandbagging was needed and believed the inconveniences made by the detours would be better than destruction by high waters.

Oscar Hansen of 543 East 400 South said the volunteers were doing a fine job. He said it was a necessity and worth a little inconvenience.

Some residents like Bonita Davis felt that the volunteers looked like they were having more fun than anything. Davis said it was just like a Mardi gras. Everyone is excited.

Some residents expressed disapproval over the disregard of some volunteers for private property. A few youth carried away with the frenzy of the work attempted to push a car out of the way of the truck carrying sandbags.

Comments included that the flooding added excitement to the Provo area.



Brain Tregaskis Photo

Water flows 12 blocks down Third South in Provo enroute to three separate drain systems.

It Will Okay Power Lines

Utah County Commissioners said they will act Wednesday to grant the Utah Municipal Power Association (UMPA) a non-exclusive franchise to build power transmission lines in the county.

The request was made by Clark Bigler, representing UMPA, who said the rates charged by Utah Power and Light Company for wheeling the power to UMPA were exorbitant.

Granting of the franchise was opposed by Wayne Mulcock, representing Utah Power and Light Company, who said UP&L has tried to consolidate its power transmission lines "to keep from cluttering up the area" with utility lines.

He warned against proliferating transmission lines, and said UP&L has given the county the advantage of not having that sort of proliferation take place.

"Granting additional franchises will take away that advantage," he said.

Lynn W. Davis, deputy Utah County Attorney, said the UP&L

contract is a non-exclusive franchise and the county is prohibited by law from granting an exclusive contract.

County Commissioner Jeril B. Wilson said he could so no reason not to grant the UMPA contract, in view of a legal decision cited by Davis.

Bigler said the franchise will allow UMPA to do some investigations, engineering and other studies before they can justify spending money for transmission lines.

"You don't put up a pole in overnight," he commented.

Commissioners said they will put the franchise on their agenda for Wednesday's meeting.

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below Springville has washed out three bridges, and city crews are monitoring another within the city, where water is spilling over the top. Crews are on 24-hour alert to clear the channel of any debris. Hobbie Creek is now higher than it was last year, according to Clyde Naylor, county engineer.

• In Lakeshore, dikes have now been raised one foot above the

high level of Spanish Fork River, and to date the river is contained.

• A bridge on S.R. 77, the route from Springville to Lakeshore, was torn out Monday to keep the abutments from washing out.



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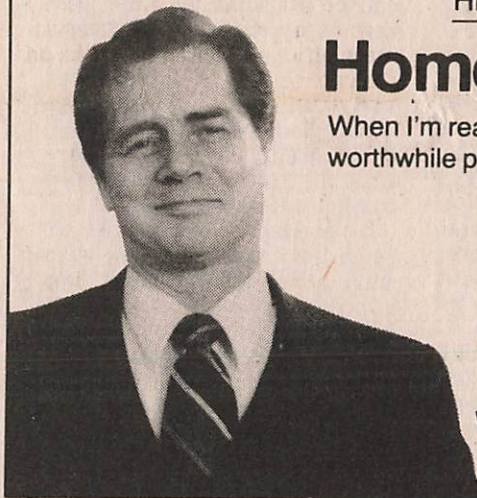
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